

Sequences and Series 4

1. By using the difference method find the sum of the first n terms:

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} + \cdots = \frac{1}{18} - \frac{1}{3(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}$$

2. Express $\frac{2}{r^2-1}$ in partial fractions. Hence, find a simple expression for $S = \sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2}{r^2-1}$ and determine whether S converges when n tends to infinity.

3. If $\sum_{r=1}^n T_r = 3n^2 + 4n$, find the value of $\sum_{r=1}^{n-1} T_r$.
Deduce the general term T_n and hence find $\sum_{r=n+1}^{2n} T_r$.

4. The sum of the first $2n$ terms of a series is $18n - 12n^2$. Find the sum of the first n terms and the n th term of this series. Show that this series is an arithmetic.

5. In a set of integers between the numbers 1 and 10,000,
(a) how many of these numbers are divisible by 3, 4, 5 and 11?
(b) how many of these numbers are divisible by 3, 4, 5 or 11?

6. The sum of the first n terms of a geometric sequence is given by $S_n = 15(1 - 3^{-n})$. Find
(a) the n th term,
(b) the common ratio,
(c) the smallest value of n such that $S_{\infty} - S_n < 0.01$.

7. Verify the identity $\frac{2r-1}{r(r-1)} - \frac{2r+1}{r(r+1)} = \frac{2}{(r-1)(r+1)}$. Hence, using the method of difference, prove that

$$\sum_{r=2}^n \frac{2}{(r-1)(r+1)} = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)}.$$

Deduce the sum of the infinite series $\frac{1}{1 \times 3} + \frac{1}{2 \times 4} + \frac{1}{3 \times 5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(n-1)(n+1)} + \cdots$

8. If $\frac{1}{x}, \frac{1}{y}, \frac{1}{z}$ are three consecutive terms in an arithmetic progression.

Show that $\frac{y+z}{x}, \frac{z+x}{y}, \frac{x+y}{z}$ also form three consecutive terms in an arithmetic progression.

9. If S is the sum of the series $1 + 3x + 5x^2 + 7x^3 + \cdots + (2n + 1)x^n$, for $x \neq 1$, by considering $(1 - x)S$, or otherwise, show that $S = \frac{1+x-(2n+3)x^{n+1}+(2n+1)x^{n+2}}{(1-x)^2}$, $x \neq 1$.

10. (a) The sequence of positive integers is grouped into four as follows:

$(1,2,3,4), (5,6,7,8), (9,10,11,12), \dots$

Show that the sum of all integers in the k^{th} bracket is $S_k = 2(8k - 3)$.

- (b) If the integers are similarly grouped with m integers in each bracket, find the sum S_n of all integers in the n^{th} bracket in terms of m and n .

Hence, show that S_n, S_{2n}, S_{3n} are in arithmetic progression.